

Message Text

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ACTION COA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3032

USDA/FAS WASHDC

UNCLAS LIMA 10293

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, PE

SUBJECT: ANCHOVY SITUATION

REF: LIMA 10174

1. OFFICIAL SOURCES REPORT THAT ALTHOUGH INDUSTRIAL ANCHOVY FISHING WAS STOPPED AS OF DECEMBER 2, SOME "EXPLORATORY" FISHING WILL CONTINUE WHICH SHOULD YIELD ANOTHER 200,000 TONS OF FISH BY END OF YEAR. SOME 50-150 BOATS MAY BE USED.

2. CONTINUED FISHING WILL SUPPLY INFORMATION ON ANCHOVY STOCKS AND DISTRIBUTION, WILL ALLOW SOME BOAT CREWS WITH HITHERTO DEFICIENT CATCHES TO IMPROVE EARNINGS AND WILL PERMIT EXPLOITATION OF WHITE ANCHOVY SCHOOLS IN NORTH.

3. IF WHITE ANCHOVIES FOUND IN QUANTITY, FISHING OF THESE COULD CONTINUE IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY AS DURING LAST SEASON.

4. IT UNLIKELY THAT CURRENT 2 MILLION ANCHOVY QUOTA WILL BE REALIZED BUT FISHMEAL TOTAL COULD BE AUGMENTED BY WHITE ANCHOVY NOT SUBJECT TO QUOTAS OR CONTROLS. AGATTACHE STILL BELIEVES 1.1 MILLION TONS TOTAL FISH MEAL POSSIBLE THIS YEAR.
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